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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

July 14, 2006

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Violent Crime Restaurant Gang Indicted

(Norfolk, Virginia) - A federal grand jury indicted five individuals on robbery, gun, and drug charges today, following an investigation into the robberies of four businesses located in Virginia Beach, Portsmouth, and Chesapeake. Chuck Rosenberg, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, announced the indictment today.

Charged were Robert Mark Alberoni, age 24, of Newport News; Melissa Rae Alteri, age 22 of Virginia Beach; David Lee Blow, age 24 of Richmond; Dwayne Laverne Stokes, Jr., age 22 of Portsmouth; and, Lloyd Franklin Boleware, age 23 of New Orleans, Louisiana,

According to the indictment, the gang lived in and operated from a home in Portsmouth, Virginia. The group used their inside knowledge of restaurant practices to rob two Sonic Drive-In Restaurants, Roger Brown's Restaurant and Sports Bar, and Cal'z Pizza. In the process of robbing the four businesses, the gang victimized more than 15 individuals working at the four establishments, by using guns, stun-guns, and knives. The indictment further alleges that the gang also used the home in Portsmouth to use and distribute controlled substances.

If convicted, each defendant faces up to 20 years imprisonment on each robbery count and the drug count, and up to life imprisonment on the use of firearms during those acts.

The investigation was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Portsmouth Police Department. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Kevin Comstock.

Defendants are presumed to be innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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